

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A lock mechanism of a table of an electric stapler, the electric stapler comprising:

a magazine portion for containing a number of staples;

a staple striking portion for striking out a staple charged in the magazine portion from the magazine portion to sheets of paper to be bound by a driver driven by a motor;

a table, supported by a main body frame of the electric stapler, and including a clincher mechanism that pivots ~~for folding~~ to bend a leg portion of the staple penetrated through the sheets along the sheets, and a wing piece formed on each side of the table;

locking means formed between ~~the~~ each wing piece of the table and the main body frame, wherein a pivoting force in an opening direction of the table is hampered by engaging the locking means with ~~the~~ each wing piece of the table;

wherein ~~the~~ each locking means comprises a lock plate including a locking pin engageable with the wing piece at one end thereof and supported by the main body frame at other end side thereof, and

wherein, by engaging the locking pin with the wing piece to hamper the wing piece from being pivoted, the pivoting force in the opening direction of the table is hampered.

Claim 3 (Original): The lock mechanism of a table of an electric stapler according to Claim 2, wherein the locking means further comprises:

- an operating piece formed at the lock plate; and
- an operating cam arranged to be brought into contact with and to be separated from the operating piece,

wherein, when the operating cam is rotated to separate from the operating piece, by ~~pivoting~~ rotating the lock plate by a spring, the locking pin is engaged with the wing piece, the wing piece is hampered from being pivoted and the pivoting force in the opening direction of the table is hampered.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A lock mechanism of a table of an electric stapler, the electric stapler comprising:

- a magazine portion for containing a number of staples;
- a staple striking portion for striking out a staple charged in the magazine portion from the magazine portion to sheets of paper to be bound by a driver driven by a motor;
- a table, supported by a main body frame of the electric stapler, and including a clincher mechanism that pivots ~~for folding~~ to bend a leg portion of the staple penetrated through the sheets along the sheets, and a wing piece formed on each side of the table;
- locking means formed between ~~the~~ each wing piece of the table and the main body frame,

wherein a pivoting force in an opening direction of the table is hampered by engaging the locking means with ~~the~~ each wing piece of the table;

wherein ~~the~~ each locking means comprises an eccentric cam supported by the main body frame and engageable with the wing piece, and

wherein, by engaging the eccentric cam with the wing piece, the wing piece is hampered from being pivoted and the pivoting force in the opening direction of the table is hampered.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A lock mechanism of a table of an electric stapler, the electric stapler comprising:

a magazine portion for containing a number of staples;

a staple striking portion for striking out a staple charged in the magazine portion from the magazine portion to sheets of paper to be bound by a driver driven by a motor;

a table, supported by a main body frame of the electric stapler, and including a clincher mechanism that pivots ~~for folding~~ to bend a leg portion of the staple penetrated through the sheets along the sheets, and a wing piece formed on each side of the table;

locking means formed between ~~the~~ each wing piece of the table and the main body frame,

wherein a pivoting force in an opening direction of the table is hampered by engaging the locking means with ~~the~~ each wing piece of the table;

wherein the locking means comprises:

engaging teeth in a sawtooth-like shape formed at the wing piece; and

a locking piece formed with locking teeth engageable with the engaging teeth,
wherein the locking piece is supported by the main body frame slidably in
directions to engage and separate from the wing piece,
wherein by engaging the locking teeth of the locking piece with the engaging
teeth of the wing piece, the wing piece is hampered from being pivoted and the pivoting force in
the opening direction of the table is hampered.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn but Amended): A lock mechanism of a table of an electric stapler,
the electric stapler comprising:

a magazine portion for containing a number of staples;
a staple striking portion for striking out a staple charged in the magazine portion from the
magazine portion to sheets of paper to be bound by a driver drive by a motor;
a table supported by a main body frame of the electric stapler and including a clincher
mechanism that pivots for folding to bend a leg portion of the staple penetrated through the
sheets along the sheets; and
a rotating cam engageable with the table and including a cam face a height of which is
gradually changed in a circumferential direction,
wherein by engaging the rotating cam with an upper end face of the table, the table is
hampered from being pivoted in an opening direction.